

BRIDGE EVALUATION SHORT FORM

Note: This form is only to be used for structure types listed in the Caltrans/FHWA/SHPO Memorandum of Understanding dated December 12, 1980.

Project: The Los Gatos Creek Trail – Reach 4 project would remove the existing railroad tracks from the Los Gatos Creek Railroad Bridge in San Jose, California and develop a surface on the bridge for a pedestrian trail.

EA: STPLER 5005 (071) Local Assistance Project

Location: Los Gatos Creek Trail – Reach 4, City of San Jose (see Map, attached)

County/Route/Postmile: Santa Clara County

Bridge Number: Not applicable

Bridge Name: Los Gatos Creek Railroad Bridge

Description: This railroad bridge spans Los Gatos Creek, just north of Ramona Court in San Jose and south of Interstate 280. The superstructure of the single-track bridge is a timber stringer trestle with an open deck. The stringers are aligned in rows directly beneath the tracks. The substructure consists of timber pile bents with timber caps. Timber runners tie the rows of timber pilings together. The pilings are driven directly into the ground with no footings.

History: Date of construction/designer:

The bridge is on the Western Pacific Railroad line from Niles to a freight depot at Bush Street and The Alameda in San Jose completed in 1922. The bridge was originally constructed in 1922, but the trestles and superstructure were likely replaced during the last 30 or 40 years. The design is based on standard plans for wood trestle bridges.

Other historical information (persons, events - e.g. WPA/CCC):

This bridge is a typical example of a common type and has no known association with important events or persons in local history


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Date: May 19, 2004

Position: Consulting Architectural Historian



Name



Title

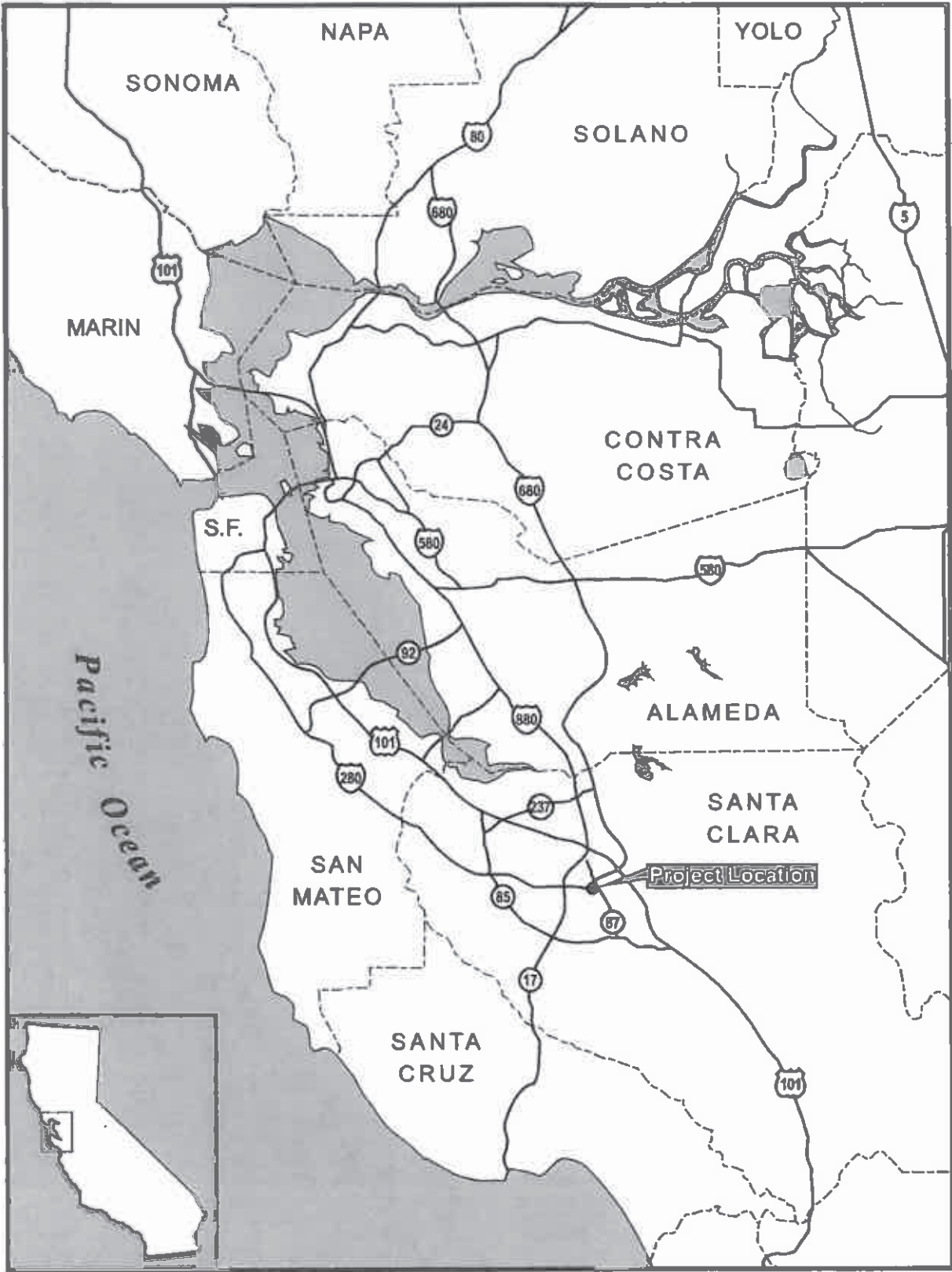


Figure 1: General Project Location



Figure 2: Project Vicinity Map (USGS San Jose West, Calif. 1980)



Figure 3: View of wood deck of former railroad trestle over Los Gatos Creek



Figure 4: View of trestle substructure over Los Gatos Creek